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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

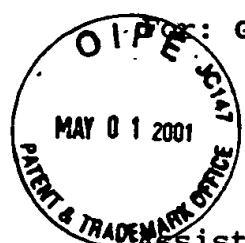
In re Application of: Hiroshi YOSHIDA, et al.

Serial No.: 09/740,064

Art Unit: 3711

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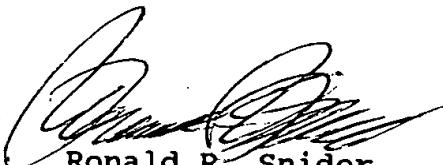
Assistant Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.55 and the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 119, attached hereto is a certified copy of the priority document, Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-021130 filed January 31, 2000.

It is respectfully requested that applicant be granted the benefit of the filing date of the foreign application and that receipt of this priority document be acknowledged in due course.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: May 1, 2001

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